

## Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /065 W

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P 141710Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8858

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0782

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI BB

SUBJ: TRAINING MATERIALS FOR BARBADOS REGIMENT

1. DURING PRIVATE TRIP HERE IN FEBRUARY 1975, COLONEL EDWARD B. ATKESON OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY HELD DISCUSSION WITH LIEUT. COL. LEONARD BANFIELD, COMMANDING OFFICER OF BARBADOS REGIMENT CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF LATTER'S OBTAINING APPROPRIATE LITERATURE AND TRAINING FILMS FROM U.S. IN SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, SUCH AS INTERNAL SECURITY AND BOMB DISPOSAL. GOB HAS REACTED MOST FAVORABLE TO COL. ATKESON'S INITIATIVE AND HAS SENT DIPLOMATIC NOTE NO. 11/12/1T.1 ASKING EMBASSY TO INVESTIGATE MATTER WITH VIEW TO "ASSISTING GOVERNMENT OF BARBADOS IN THESE HIGHLY SPECIALIZED AREAS."

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, BARBADOS REGIMENT IS COUNTRY'S ONLY MILITARY FORCE, EXCEPT FOR INFANT COAST GUARD WHICH IS GEARED MORE TO SEARCH/RESCUE AND POLICE THAN MILITARY DUTIES. UPON REGIMENT WOULD FALL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DEALING WITH SERIOUS INTERNAL DISORDER OR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IT WOULD THUS BE IN OUR INTEREST TO HAVE THIS VOLUNTARY RESERVE FORCE AS HIGHTLY TRAINED AS POSSIBLE IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST SUCH AS THOSE DESCRIBED ABOVE.

3. I REALIZE THAT FULL-SCALE MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM WOULD LIKELY COME UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT AND/OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION FOR WHICH BARBADOS IS NOT, TO MY KNOWLEDGE, ELIGIBLE. BUT IT SEEMS THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME MANNER

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IZCH WE COULD ASSIST THIS SMALL FRIENDLY FORCE IN PERFORMANCE

OF DUTIES THAT MAY DIRECTLY BENEFIT US GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND/  
OR U.S. CITIZENS. WE ARE SIMPLY SEEKING TO LEND BARBADOS SOME  
OF TOOLS WHICH IT NEEDS TO DO ITS OWN JOB OF TRAINING ITS PEOPLE.  
I HOPE THAT WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATE MATTER WITH  
VIEW TO MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO LEND GOB REQUESTED TRAINING MATE-  
RIALS AND PROVIDING CATALOGUES FOR FUTURE USE.  
BRITTON

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## Message Attributes

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